Claims

SUB I

A method of treatment of a disease or a condition requiring the administration of an antioxidant, which comprises administering to a patient an effective amount of a secoisolariciresinol diglucoside (SDG) metabolite selected from the group consisting of secoisolariciresinol (SECO) in a substantially pure form, enterodiol (ED) in a substantially pure form.

- 2. A method according to claim 1 wherein said disease is hypercholesterolemic atherosclerosis.
- 3. A method according to claim 1 wherein said disease is diabetes type I or type II.
- 10 4. A method according to claim 1 wherein said/condition is ischemic heart disease.
 - 5. A method according to claim 1 wherein said condition is volume or pressure overload heart failure.
 - 6. A method according to claim 1 wherein said condition is the prevention of myocardial injury during open heart/surgery.
- 7. A method according to claim 1 wherein said condition is the prevention of restenosis following persutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA).
 - 8. A method according to claim/1 wherein said condition is hemorrhagic or endotoxic shock.
 - 9. A method according to claim 1 wherein said condition is ageing.
- 20 10. A method according to plaim 1 wherein said disease is inflammatory bowel disease (Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis).
 - 11. A method according to claim 1 wherein said disease is Parkinson's disease.
 - 12. A method according to claim 1 wherein said disease is rheumatoid arthritis.
 - 13. A method according to claim 1 wherein said disease is stroke.
- 25 14. A method according to claim 1 wherein secoisolariciresinol diglucoside (SDG) is obtained from flaxseed, and said metabolite is obtained from SDG.

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